GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1022
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000
MEETING OF JOINT WORKING GROUP ON BORDER MANAGEMENT
BHIM PRASAD DAHAL;SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether a three day meeting of a Joint Working Group on Border Management was held recently between India and Nepal officials; and

(b) If so, the details of issues discussed and the outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)
(a) & (b)
The third meeting of the India-Nepal Joint Working Group on Border Management was held from February 1-3, 2000 in Kathmandu. Concrete measures and cooperation on security issues were discussed, reviewed and followed up at the meeting. The two sides reiterated their determination not to permit the use of their respective territories for activities directed against the other. They reviewed the developments since the last meeting of the Joint Working Group and had a useful exchange of views on modalities for more effective management and regulation of the India-Nepal border. They agreed to strengthen cooperation to control undesirable activities and the movement of terrorists, criminals and other undesirable elements across the border. It was reiterated that the privilege of unimpeded access across the open border enjoyed by the nationals of the two countries should not be allowed to be misused by anyone, including third country nationals. The need for intensified and coordinated patrolling at sensitive border points, including the deployment of Central and State Police Forces on the Indian side, was discussed with the objective of enhancing security and preventing misuse of the open India-Nepal border, while ensuring that the facility remains available for legitimate users.